

1 68. (New) The method of Claim 66 wher in th damper means includes a
2 viscous fluid.

1 69. (New) The method of Claim 68 wherein the viscous fluid comprises a
2 grease.

1 70. (New) The method of Claim 68 wherein the viscous fluid is tacky.

1 71. (New) The method of Claim 66 wherein the hinge assembly includes a
2 cartridge.

1 72. (New) The method of claim 71 wherein the cartridge includes a spring.

1 73. (New) The method of Claim 72, wherein the damper means limits
2 rotation of at least a portion of the cartridge.

1 74. (New) The method of Claim 66, wherein the damper means limits the
2 pivoting of the at least two platforms about the hinge assembly at a rate of about 60
3 to 120 degrees per second upon release of the locking means.

REMARKS

The present Preliminary Amendment is being submitted prior to the first Office Action in this application. Claims 37 and 39 have been amended. Claims 42-74 have been added. Thus, Claims 1-74 remain pending in the application. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons which follow.

Applicants have preliminarily amended Claims 37 and 39 to provide consistent language throughout the claims.

Applicants also request that new Claims 42-74 be added. New independent Claims 42, 58 and 66, and their respective dependent claims, include patentable subject matter supported by the specification as originally filed.

Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX A

MARKED UP VERSION SHOWING CHANGES MADE

The following are marked-up versions of the amended claims indicated in the Amendment in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121. Applicants have used the conventional underline to indicate added text and [square brackets] to indicate deleted text.

37. (Once Amended) A container for holding cosmetics and having a first platform and a second platform, the container comprising:

hinge means for coupling the first platform and a second platform and for automatically pivoting the first platform from a storage position to a use position relative to the second platform;

damper means for limiting pivoting of the first platform [cover] at rate of about 60 to 120 degrees per second;

wherein the first platform in the storage position conceals the cosmetics and the first platform in the use position reveals the cosmetics.

39. (Once Amended) The container of Claim 38 wherein the spring is in a tensioned configuration when the first platform [cover] is in the storage position and the spring is in an at least partially relaxed configuration when the first platform [cover] is in the use position.